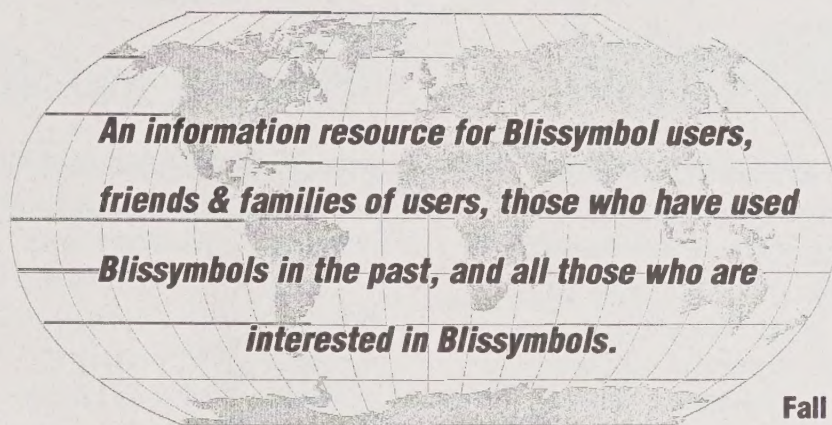


BlissWorld



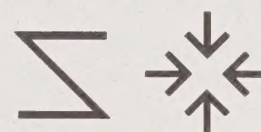
IN THIS ISSUE . . .

Bliss Forum	1
Editorial	2
New Blissymbols	3
Person to Person	4
What's New	6
Correspondence	8
Tips for Teaching	10
Bliss Games	12



Fall 1992

Bliss Forum



by Peter Reich

It was my great pleasure to meet Lee Mehrlich, a Blissymbol user from Indianapolis, at the recent Blissymbolics meeting in Pottstown, PA. Lee's desire to develop stories regarding religion and morality in Blissymbolics had led him to create over a hundred possible new Blissymbols.

A couple of weeks after that meeting I drove to Indianapolis to help him and Catherine Bielski as they used their Blissymbol creative abilities to develop the new vocabulary that Lee needs in his work. What was intended to be a four-hour session lasted over ten hours of exhausting but exciting collaboration. Some of the symbols they are proposing are given on page 3.

Lee and Pina Gennaro of Italy will be heading a Blissymbol development group for religious terms; they would welcome your comments and suggestions for new Blissymbols. Their addresses and other special interest groups are given on page 5.

People creating new symbols should remember that short symbols are best and that the general category symbol should be first. Other principles are found in the Notes sections of the new Blissymbol Reference Guide (BRG).

When offering a newly created symbol for consideration by others it is best to provide a description of the concepts used in developing the symbol. We urge all those who wish to help in the development of Blissymbols to purchase BRG. Not only will you gain over 200 new symbols, you will also have a greater understanding of the rules governing Blissymbol creation.

Remember - if you wish to use your new Blissymbols in any publication, you should list their derivations in a glossary. This identifies which symbols belong to the Standard Vocabulary and which are personally created.

Please share your ideas with us.

Continued on page 3.

Editorial



It is with great honour and pleasure that I begin this second edition of *BlissWorld* by sharing an exciting event with you. At the fifth Biennial ISAAC (International Society of Augmentative and Alternative Communication) Conference (August 1992) in Philadelphia, **BCI** was awarded the Distinguished Service Award.

Those receiving the award on behalf of BCI were Shirley McNaughton, who continues to contribute her vision and efforts to Blissymbolics and BCI; Paul Marshall, a former Blissymbol user, who is now an AAC colleague in every sense of the word; and Shona McDonald, a parent of a young Blissymbol user and a contributor to the AAC efforts in South Africa. These three people well represent Blissymbols and everything that BCI has tried to accomplish over the past two decades.

We've learned at least two things from the letters we've received after our first edition of *BlissWorld*. First, you like it. Thank you for the many encouraging words. The most common comment has been "We need a publication devoted to Blissymbols". Second, you have lots of ideas.

We especially enjoyed receiving your letters, stories, poems and comments, particularly those written in Blissymbols. Some of these are included on pages 8, 9.

Many of you have already been informed that on October 23, 1992, BCI will be celebrating its 21st year of Blissymbols in Ontario. We're hoping that all our BCI friends will be able to attend this exciting event.

Those of you who are unable to be with us might like to write or fax us your greetings - we will have a large display board featuring these messages from far and wide. Further information is on pages 6 and 7 or call, write or fax BCI.

At the recent Affiliate Meeting in Pottstown, Pennsylvania, several decisions were made regarding the use of new Blissymbols (page 5). As well, development of a new Bliss Starter Kit was begun and will be implemented shortly. Further details on this newest idea will be given in forthcoming issues of *BlissWorld*.

With your continuing involvement, *BlissWorld* will be an important vehicle for the exchange of information about the world of Bliss. Please keep your ideas and comments coming!

Katherine Seybold, Ed.



Recently, the Canadian Department of communications sponsored BCI and IDON Corporation to work on the codification of Blissymbols into a code table in accordance with the international standards for character sets.

The Bliss two byte code table was submitted for approval in the Spring of 1992 to the International Organization for Standards (ISO), which maintains a registry of standardized character sets.

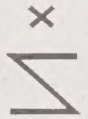
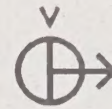
The code table allows Blissymbols to be mixed with other data in computers and communication equipment in a manner compatible with international standards. A number of computer manufacturers and communications carriers have indicated they will support the new ISO character set standards in their next generation of equipment. Blissymbols will now be automatically supported by all computer equipment in the future, without the need for special software packages!

BlissWorld

Published by Blissymbolics Communication International (BCI)
250 Ferrand Drive, Suite 200, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M3C 3P2
Telephone: 416-421-8377 Fax: 416-696-1035
Katherine Seybold, Editor

Send all inquiries, letters and submissions to the address above.
Printed in Canada. This material is not copyrighted, so feel free to copy and distribute anything you find of interest.

Ideas for New Blissymbols



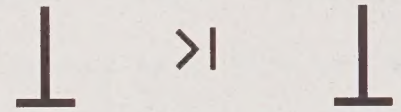
Symbols on this page are in an early development stage and are presented for discussion only.

	temptation (wrong + attractive)
	evil (immorality + intensity)
	cope (to) (to go through + difficulty)
	unfailing (never + stop)
	heaven (place + God)
	kingdom [of God] (place + God + guide)
	essence (be + intensity)
	spirit (essence + life)
	Holy Spirit (the) (essence + God)
	Creator (the) (being + create)
	insight (understanding + essence)
	vision [mental sense] (insight + future)

	encourage (to) (to speak + increase + feeling + plus)
	opportunity (interval + act)
	compassion (empathy + ill [abbreviation for pain])
	forgiveness (noun form of to forgive)
	forgiving (forgiveness + description indicator)
	forgivable (forgiveness + description before the fact indicator)
	confusing (confusion + description indicator)
	confused (confusion + description after the fact indicator)
	confuse (to) (to think + mix)
	dilemma (confusion + choice)
	praise (to) (to say + positive)
	celebration (gathering + praise)

Please mark in the space beside each symbol an 'A' if you approve, or an 'X' if you disapprove. If you are undecided use a '?'. Make two photocopies and send one to either Lee or Pina and the other to us at BCI.

Person to Person



Despite the incessant rain, the soggy weather did little to dampen the spirits of those who were in attendance at the Bliss Affiliate/Associate Meeting in Pottstown, Pennsylvania, August 13 - 15, 1992. There were 10 countries represented and once again the meeting was an excellent opportunity to discuss the common issues and news of the Bliss family.

Several important decisions resulted from two days of indepth discussion:

New Symbols: Everyone recognized that limited BCI resources and the dedication to ensure quality in our work made the pace of system development very slow. Suggestions were made for speeding up BCI's ability to respond to requests from instructors/users who need new symbols or symbol ideas faster than our present structure is able to provide them.

a) Those in the field have always been encouraged to create the symbols they need as **combined symbols**. In those instances where it is unwieldy to use combine indicators because of limited space (as on a computer screen) or because of format (would clutter the appearance of a book, etc.), it was agreed that the author should create a **glossary or appendix** to the material. This Glossary of Blissymbols should contain a rationale explaining why combine indicators are not being used even though the listed symbols are not found in the BCI Standard Vocabulary. As well, the glossary should contain the component parts for each newly created symbol. BCI is not eliminating the combine indicators, but it is hoped that a



The Distinguished Service Award

1992

Presented to

Blissymbolics Communication
Institute

glossary will encourage those in the field to use their own creativity to devise needed vocabulary and thus speed the completion of their projects. BCI would ask that the contents of any glossary be shared with the Symbol Office.

b) In order to expand the Standard Vocabulary in various topic areas, it was agreed that several special interest groups (SIG) would be set up to review new symbols in different topic areas.

It was recommended that a questionnaire be sent to all members of the International Panel and members will indicate their particular interest (e.g. symbols for spirituality, computer terms, pre-school symbols, activities of daily living symbols, musical symbols, etc.). They will then become a member of that SIG and will propose new symbols and send them to the SIG Chair.

These symbols will be distributed to all other members of the SIG for comment and input. When the SIG has a final group of symbols that have been agreed upon by all SIG members, these symbols will be distributed to everyone on the International Panel for comment. All symbols which receive general agreement will then be submitted to the Symbol Committee (a 3 member panel appointed by the BCI Board of Directors) for final approval in the Standard Vocabulary.

Although this second plan will not speed up the symbol approval process, it will tap the creative potential of those people in the field who are working with Blissymbols and who are particularly interested in working on symbols within a specific topic. We hope that this decentralization will result in an expanded and diverse group of new Blissymbols for approval in 1994.

Anyone not presently on the International Panel who is interested in participating in this plan is asked to contact the BCI office or one of the SIG Chairs:

Religious symbols:

Lee Mehrlich
New Hope of Indiana
8450 N. Payne Road
Indianapolis, IN 46268 USA.

and

Pina Gennaro
Consorzio Siciliano de Riabilitazione
Via Vincenzo Casagrandi, 53
95123 Catania, ITALY

Pre-School Symbols:

Shirley McNaughton
120 Promenade Circle, #802
Thornhill, Ontario L4J 7W9

Computer Terms:

Peter Reich
58 Keewatin Ave.
Toronto, Ontario M4P 1Z8

Bliss Starter Kit: Another decision that was reached at the Pottstown meeting was to begin the development of a Bliss Starter Kit. This is in response to the many people who want to begin learning and/or teaching Bliss who do not have the time to attend lengthy workshops. The Kit will consist of the video, *Blissymbolics: A Living Language*, as well as other material. Further information will be given in the next edition of *BlissWorld*.

In response to questions about the difference between **Affiliates**, **Training Associates** and **Associates**, the following outline will clarify these terms.

Outside North America:
Generally there is one **Affiliate** in each country, represented by a contact person. They disseminate information from BCI to those people in their country who are interested in Blissymbols. Often people within a country from different areas and/or backgrounds form a Blissymbol committee and meet regularly. The Affiliate keeps BCI informed of the activities within this country or region and attend, as resources allow, Bliss Affiliate/Associate meetings.

Within North America:

1. **Affiliates** are generally represented by an organization, or an individual

independently undertaking the responsibilities of an affiliated organization. The Affiliate provides information on Blissymbol-related communication, training and teaching materials to people within the Affiliate's geographical area. A close link is maintained between BCI and the Affiliate.

2. **Training Associates** are individuals who wish to remain active as Presenters of Blissymbol workshops, or those who would like to begin making presentations relating to Blissymbolics. We recommend these people attend at least one Blissymbol-related meeting each year and keep BCI informed of any training sessions that they conduct in their area.

3. **Associates** are individuals interested in Blissymbolics who wish to receive updates relating to symbol development and new publications and materials from BCI.

Several other Bliss groups have also been formed by BCI:

1. **The International Panel** consists of about 85 people around the world who have a particular interest in the development of new Blissymbols.

This group reviews proposals for new symbols and through consensus, approves or rejects the proposals.

2. **Monitors** act on BCI's behalf to ensure that the representation of Blissymbols appearing in publications and computer programs is accurate and in keeping with the standard vocabulary.

Readers of *BlissWorld* who wish to be formally recognized in one or more of these categories are encouraged to contact BCI.

Everyone is welcome to attend the biennial Affiliate/Associate Meeting. One of the recommendations coming from the August meeting was that each Affiliate/Associate bring someone new to join our next family reunion.

We hope that the next Bliss Affiliate/Associate meeting will be held following the ISAAC Conference in or near Maastricht, The Netherlands in August 1994 - so mark your calendars now. And tell your colleagues!



BlissLiteracy

BlissLiteracy (©1992 BCI) is an new IBM software program designed to allow Bliss users to write their own stories, notes, messages and other correspondence in Blissymbols and to read this material either in Bliss, or in words and Bliss. Intended as one component of the Bliss user's literacy program, it provides experiences in creating text totally from the selection of Blissymbols or from a combination of Bliss and spelling. As students progress in their knowledge of print, the balance will shift from material produced primarily from Blissymbols to material produced primarily by spelling.

Useful features include:

- choice of scanning or keyboard selection
- short introduction to Blissymbolics in the Lesson Utility
- mini authoring system to help instructors develop lessons
- translation capability to correct English syntax
- manual with two streams of information
 - (1) assistance to educational instructors
 - (2) technical assistance
- on-line assistance
- auditory feedback

Requirements:

- IBM 640K memory • VGA Monitor
- external serial speech synthesizer

BlissLiteracy is available from BCI for \$250 Cdn.



BMW

Blissymbol component • Minspeak™ • Words Strategy™

By Shirley McNaughton, C.M., M.Ed.

BMW (©1992 Semantic Compaction Systems) is a Minspeak Application Program™ that brings the capabilities of Words Strategy to Blissymbol users who wish to use Minspeak to encode vocabulary and generate both synthetic speech and printed text. BMW can be used with the Liberator™, Touch Talker™ or Light Talker™. The BMW package includes a manual, wallchart, appropriate overlays, colored highlight film, software, set of Bingo cards, and instructional videotape.

Requirements:

- *knowledge* of both Bliss and Words Strategy by the AAC user and the instructor.
- *interaction* between the AAC user and the instructor to determine the vocabulary and strategies.
- *time* to learn the capabilities of Bliss and the strategies for vocabulary encoding.

Points to remember:

- knowledge of Blissymbols is essential to the competent use of BMW.
- the BMW overlay is not intended to be used without voice or text output.

BMW is available from Prentke Romich Company,

1022 Heyl Road, Wooster, Ohio 44691 \$330 U.S.



What's

?

21 Years

Coming of Age

Friday October

Ontario Institute for S

252 Bloor St

to celebrate the accomplishments

in the opportu

19:00-20:00 Meet old fr

20:00-21:30 Program

21:30-22:30 Refreshme

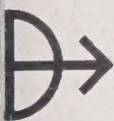
Master of

Don Harron "Ch

Many spe

We also ask for your help. of Bliss, along with the ce Bliss, to provide a vehicle ute financial support to B Friend of Bliss you will re our BlissWorld newsletter faction of knowing that yo continue to fill its co-ordin development and commun and supporters around th fore, Blissymbols are bein internationally by volunte making its contribution to your financial help to mal

New



of Bliss
in the Nineties
r 23, 1992
udies in Education
W. Toronto

he 70's and 80's and share
es of the 90's
ds and see exhibits(2nd floor)
n Auditorium (main floor)
s (2nd floor)

remonies:
lie Farquharson"

al guests!

e are introducing *Friends*
ration of our 21 Years of
those who wish to contrib-
on an annual basis. As a
ve a friendship card and
d you will have the satis-
donation is helping BCI
ing role toward system
tion between Bliss users
world. More than ever be-
developed and supported
. BCI wants to continue
is process, but we need
his happen!

BEING SEXUAL

An Illustrated Series on Sexuality and Relationships for People with Disabilities

By Dave Hingsburger and Susan Ludwig

Illustrated by James Whittingham Translated by Claudia Wood

The **Being Sexual** series (©1992 SIECCAN) is a unique Blissymbol-illustrated 16 book series (approximately 35 pages each) on sex education for young adults and adults with developmental disabilities. It is also an exceptional resource for people who have literacy, learning or communication difficulties. They provide a gentle, humane and positive approach to sexuality and interpersonal relationships.

Features of the series:

- wide range of topics
- clear text with Blissymbol illustration of key concepts
- concrete examples linked to individual rights and social expectations
- may be used for independent, private use or to support group instruction
- emphasis on the worth and responsibilities of individuals
- illustrations provide visual interest and discussion stimulus
- sequencing of subject matter achieves specific learning objectives

The series includes:

- **Relationships** • **A Woman's Body** • **A Man's Body**
- **Heterosexual Intercourse** • **Human Reproduction**
- **Homosexuality** • **Female Masturbation** • **Male Masturbation**
- **Sexually Transmitted Diseases** • **AIDS** • **Sexuality and Aging**
- **Sexuality and Physical Disability** • **Sexual Self-Advocacy**
- **Adolescence** • **Birth Control** • **Sexual Abuse** • **Teaching Manual**

For further information contact:

Sex Information and Education Council of Canada,
850 Coxwell Avenue, East York, Ontario M4C- 5R1 CANADA



Julius and His Friend the Computer

Written and illustrated by Thelma Chait Blissymbol Translation by Annalu Waller

Julius and His Friend the Computer (©1992 Oxford University Press) is a delightful true story of a 13 year old boy with cerebral palsy in South Africa. This soft-covered book is brightly illustrated with complete Blissymbol translation.

Julius and His Friend the Computer is available from BCI for \$10 Cdn.



Meetings & Workshops

"Bliss in a Day" Workshop, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada Nov 9, 1992

3 Day Elementary Workshop, Toronto, Ontario, Canada . . . Nov 30 - Dec 2 1992

Bliss & Technology Workshop, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Bliss / Mac November 27, OR December 5, 1992

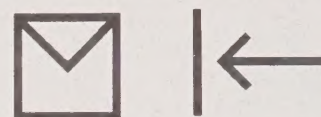
Bliss / IBM November 28, OR December 4, 1992

Bliss / BMW December 11, 1992

Please tell us What's New in your area.



Correspondence



by Krzysztof Picheta POLAND

$\perp_{1+}$ $\overset{\vee}{\text{H}}$ $\otimes$
 $\triangle + \perp_1 \circ \overset{\vee}{\heartsuit} \uparrow \text{,,} \odot \overset{\times}{\perp}_1 \downarrow \square \text{,,} \overset{\times}{\perp}_1 \otimes \rightarrow \hat{\square} \text{P}_{\text{USA}}.$
 $\circ \odot \text{,,} \perp_1 -! \hat{\heartsuit} \rangle \mid \rightarrow \text{P}_{\text{POLAND}}. \perp_1 -! \square \text{?} \heartsuit \text{?}$
 $\perp_{1+} \wedge, \hat{\triangle}_2 + \wedge \wedge \curvearrowright \overset{\times}{\perp}_1 \overset{\vee}{\heartsuit} \wedge \otimes. \overset{\times}{\perp}_1 \rightarrow \text{>}$
Orlando + $\odot \square \overset{\vee}{\text{I}} \triangle \mid + \mid \hat{\triangle}_2 \uparrow + \wedge \uparrow \square \ast \perp \odot.$
 $\odot \overset{\vee}{\text{I}}. \Omega \overset{\times}{\perp}_1 \downarrow \otimes \perp_1 \oplus \Sigma. \perp_1 \hat{\wedge} > \otimes \wedge +$
 $\downarrow \otimes + \overset{\times}{\perp} \heartsuit +! . \odot \text{>} \overset{\times}{\perp}_1 \wedge \heartsuit \uparrow \neq \overset{\square \times}{\rightarrow} \heartsuit \uparrow.$
 $\perp_1 \rightarrow \rightarrow \text{?} \overset{\square \times}{\rightarrow} \heartsuit \uparrow + \perp_{1+} \overset{\times}{\perp} \heartsuit +! \square \text{P}_{\text{POLAND}}.$
 $\odot \Omega \cdot_{12} \overset{\times}{\perp}_1 \rightarrow \sim \square \square, \rightarrow \sim. \overset{\vee}{\text{I}}. \Omega \overset{\times}{\perp}_1 \pm \heartsuit \uparrow.$
 $\mid + \mid + \overset{\times}{\perp} \heartsuit +! \overset{\times}{\perp}_1 \circ \partial, \heartsuit \uparrow \circ + \circ, \heartsuit \uparrow \circ. \perp_1 \heartsuit \heartsuit \oplus!!$
+ $\triangle \times \oplus \rightarrow \overset{\times}{\perp} \heartsuit +! \perp_1 \odot \boxtimes \mid \hat{\triangle} \rightarrow.$

My Long Journey

Mother and I were very happy when we learned that we will travel to visit the USA.

There was a time when I did not want to leave Poland. I did not know why I felt it.

My father, sister and grandfather wished us a safe journey.

We arrived at Orlando and lived in a small house together with my aunt and uncle in camp.

During the first day ladies communicated with me using Blissymbols.

I worked on the computer and communicated with friends.

During the evenings we played different games. I will try these games with my friends in Poland.

During the afternoon we swam in the swimming pool. The last day we had a campfire.

Together with friends we sang, laughed and joked.

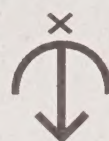
I felt wonderful and have made many new friends I will always remember.

A FLOWER - by Leo Leppala FINLAND

1 Ω „ 1₁ ☼ □ / 〇
 1₁ ☼ ♂ \ ♀ „ ♀↑ □ / □△△
 / ♀ -! ^ „ ♀↑ + 1↓ / □△△ ♂
 -!! / ♀ -! ^ „ → ♂ ♀↑
 1 ^ : " 1₁ ^ "
 / ♀ ♂ 1₁: "1₂ ^ ?> 1₂ ♡ } →→"
 1₂ -! ♂₁ ♂: "1₁ -! ^ "
 ?> 1₂ →→ 1₂ ♂ „ 1₂ ^ ^ ✕
 1₂ ^ |

One day when I was driving in the garden
 I happened to see a flower which was growing in the
 asphalt
 The flower doesn't think about how thick and
 hard the asphalt is
 No, the flower doesn't think how hard it is to grow up
 It thinks : "I CAN"
 The flower tells us: "You can if you want to try."
 You wouldn't just say: "I CAN'T"
 If you try you'll see that you can do more
 than you've done before.

Tips for Teaching:



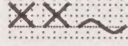
This past spring brought the completion and publication of one of BCI's most ambitious and valuable projects to date: **The Blissymbol Reference Guide**. It contains hundreds of tips for teaching!

The following comments are from a BRG user: "Much more than just a dictionary of existing Blissymbols, I found this book to be an excellent resource for augmentative communicators as well as for instructors teaching the Blissymbol system. Its value lies in the development of language skills and comprehension of one's native language."

In the *Finding Symbols by Meaning* section, topic headings and sub-headings provide vocabulary lists to enable instructors to develop themes or special projects. Symbols grouped under a particular heading or subheading frequently have a common classifying symbol, e.g., **water**, which makes them easy to teach and to learn. Using the classifiers, instructors can highlight semantic relationships between words to enhance language development.

An example is shown below:

Sample
Entry
(Partial)

Recreation	
PLAY AND RECREATION	
Playing in Water	
 water, fluid, liquid (symbol suggests a wave)	 beach, bank, coast, shore (earth + water)
 lake, pond (much + water)	 pool (combination of enclosure and water)
 ocean, sea (much + much + water)	 wading pool, paddling pool (UK) (pool + child)
	 swimming pool (pool + to swim)

KEY SYMBOLS demonstrate the generative capabilities of Bliss. A small number (less than 120) represent primary meanings or concepts that are used repeatedly to generate additional symbol vocabulary. This list is not definitive as new key symbols may be added over time. Key symbols provide the key to deciphering any existing symbols and offer the potential for creating new compound symbols. A few of the Key Symbols are:

Key Symbol	Glosses
	medical, medically
	feeling, emotion
	cloth, fabric, material, net
	house, building, residence

Key Symbol	Glosses
	fire
	water, fluid, liquid
	drink, beverage
	life

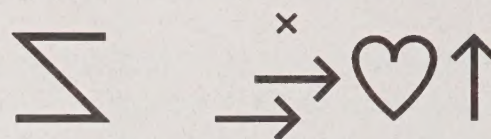
A full list of Key symbols is given in an Appendix of the Blissymbol Reference Guide.

Throughout the Blissymbol Reference Guide there are a series of NOTES that explain more about the structure and meaning of various Blissymbols than can be included in the abbreviated descriptions with each Blissymbol. Several examples are given below:

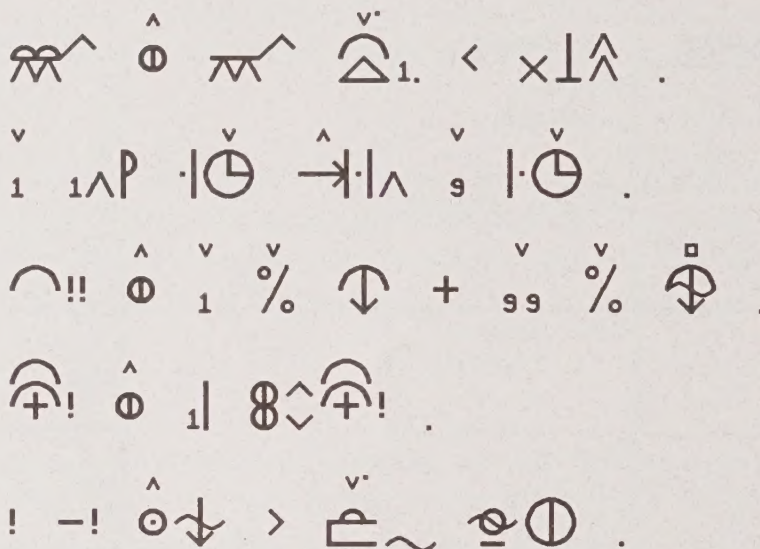
Quantitative Meanings			
One or more half-sized multiplication symbols may be used with other symbols to create compound symbols with <i>collective meanings</i> or meanings involving <i>quantity</i> . When used this way the half-sized multiplication symbol does not have an indicator.			
	group of, much/many		village (group of + building)
	very much, very many (many + many)		city (many + many + building)
			group (group of + person)
			public (the) (many + many + person)

Personalizing People Symbols				
One may substitute man, woman, boy, girl, child, baby etc., for person in any compound symbol. Symbols then become more meaningful to users.				
teacher (male)	minister (female)	friend (child)	visitor (boy)	student (girl)
(man + to give + knowledge)	(woman + to give knowledge + God)	(child + to like)	(boy + to visit)	(girl + to receive + knowledge)

Bliss Games



Below are five well-known proverbs, translated into Bliss. Can you figure them out?



International Penpals

Steve Johnson
1933 Burlewood
St. Louis Mo.
63146 USA

Krzysztof Picheta
ul. Ordonowny 3b/92
Sosnowiec
41-200 POLAND

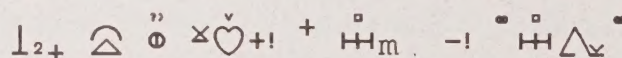
Kari Harrington
16 Jonquil Cres.
Markham Ont.
CANADA L3P-1T4

Anders Lidholm
Gafsele 588
91060 Asele
SWEDEN

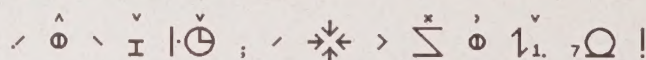
Send your name to us and
we will list it here with our
other penpals from around
the world!

Try your hand at translating, then send your answers to us at *BlissWorld*.

Congratulations to the two Cartoon Contest winners: **Douglas Everingham** (Aust.) and **Lee Mehrlich** (USA).



"Your plan would have been better with a meter ruler, not a foot ruler."



"That is a little late; the meeting about Blissymbols was last week!"

